Opening up of L.P.G. Agencies Orissa

*535. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the scarcity of LPG in Orissa ;

(b) if so, the steps taken to open new LPG agencies in that State ;

(c) whether places have been identified for the location of LPG agencies in the state ;

(d) if so, whether any such place has been identified in Keonjhar district ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) The demand of existing customers of LPG in Orissa is being met by and large in full.

(b) and (c) Subject to economic viability and product availability, locations having population of 20,000 and above are included in the Marketing Plan for LPG, in a phased manner. To meet the growing demand for LPG, six locations for setting up of LPG distributorships have been included in the current LPG Marketing Plan 1992—94 for Orissa.

(d) No location of the Keonjhar district has been included in the current LPG Marketing Plan.

(e) Does not arise.

National Highways in Gujarat

*536. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of National Highways covering Gujarat State;

(b) the stretches of National Highways in the State which have been identified as prone to damges due to floods and cyclone ; and

(c) the steps/measures taken to protect the same from damage by natural calamities ?,

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) 1631 km including 93 km long Ahmedabad Vadodara Expressway which is under construction.

(b) and (c) No such stretches have been identified. However, National Highways in Gujarat damaged due to floods and other natural calamities are repaired and maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

Sealing of Blood Banks involved in selling infected Blood

*537. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that recently in Amritsar, the District Administration had sealed the premises of six private blood banks following reports about one of them having sold blood infected with HIV virus to a patient undergoing treatment at a private hospital ;

(b) if so, what are the steps taken by Government to seal such blood banks elsewhere in the county; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Four